

Remarks:

This application has been carefully considered in light of the Official Office Action and a telephonic interview courteously granted by the Examiner in the case.

Apparently, Claim 12 would be allowable if the duplicating line in the Claim were omitted as this as it renders the Claim indefinite. The Claim 12 has been amended to remove the duplicating line so that favorable action upon Claim 12 is courteously requested,

Claim 13 apparently was not acted upon and would be allowable, accordingly, favorable consideration of Claim 13 is courteously requested. Claim 13 was a combination of Claims 9 and 10 submitted previously and indicated would be allowable.

Claim 14 has been extensively amended in an effort to make it more definite to more clearly define the novel, believed patentable, features of applicant's invention. The features recited in Claim 14 are not believed to be obvious from Staben in view of Risch.

The Risch pin mounting is on the sides of the hook and bucket holding plate, not on the front and rear as in applicant's device.

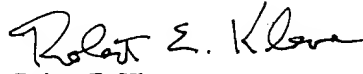
Further, neither Staben nor Risch disclose a hook frame with hooks that can be used alone with the front end loader or alternatively used together with the front end loader and bucket. This distinction is now more definitely recited in the amended Claim 14. The Staben device shows no separate hook frame. The only way the hooks can be mounted for use, is by manually attaching them to the top of the bucket or bucket frame. It has no separate hook frame, as in applicant's device; nor does it suggest one for holding simply the hooks.

Similarly, Risch has no separate hook frame, the frame must be completely disassembled by the side by removing the pins and separating the sides of the frame and then placing the hooks between the sides and reassembling the sides, which is far less convenient and far more manual effort is required.

Further, it is a side assembly not a front and rear construction. Further, is shows only two alternatives using the plates to hold the bucket or using the plates to hold the bucket and the hooks, and also does not offer the third alternative of holding the hooks alone, as is possible with applicant's device.

Thus, there is no showing nor suggestion of a separate hook frame to hold the hooks with frontal face mounting for the bucket and rear face mounting for the loader as now more specifically recited in Claim 14, and accordingly, favorable consideration of Claim 14 is courteously requested.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Kleve". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent than the last name "Kleve".

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